

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 KHARTO 00534 151430Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----151435Z 048598 /43/10  
P 151015Z FEB 77  
FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3659

S E C R E T KHARTOUM 0534

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT IN UPPER CASE -PARA 1)

FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MORG, SU  
SUBJECT: MIDDLE EAST FORCE - THE NEW FORMAT

REF: STATE 030235

1. FROM POLICY STANDPOINT, GIVEN NIMEIRI REGIME'S  
CURRENT PROFESSIONS OF CONCERN RE POSSIBLE INCREASE IN  
SOVIET INFLUENCE IN RED SEA AREAN I WOULD ASSUME SUDAN  
MIGHT BE WILLING RESPOND POSITIVELY TO COMMITMENT REQUESTED PARA

9, REFTTEL. HOWEVER, PUBLICITY RE ANY SUCH ACTION WOULD BE ENTIRELY  
AT VARIANCE WITH THIS GOVERNMENT'S SETTLED NONALIGNED  
POLICY. EVEN IF GOS WOULD AGREE, THEREFORE, BELIEVE  
THEY WOULD EXPECT ANY BAHRAINI PUBLICITY TO BE GENERALIZED  
IN SUCH TERMS AS "OTHER ARAB/AFRICAN AND SOUTH ASIAN  
COUNTRIES IN REGIONS". SHOULD GOS AGREE, MOREOVER, WE  
COULD EXPECT CONSIDERABLE SUDANESE INTEREST IN QUID PRO  
QUO WHICH MIGHT GO BEYOND SUBSTANTIAL PAYMENTS FOR USE  
PIER SPACE WHICH ASSUME WOULD BE NO PROBLEM.

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2. FORM TECHNICAL STANDPOINT, PORT SUDAN PORT  
FACILITIES ARE JAMMED. FLAGSHIP COULD NOT HAVE  
UNINTERUPTED ACCESS PIER SPACE FOR FOURTJWL  
CONSECUTIVE DAYS WITHOUT SERIOUSLY COMPLICATING LOCAL  
CONGESTION AT PORT AND RISKING CRITICISM (WHICH  
COMMUNISTS MIGHT SEEK STIMULATE) THAT DELAYS IN  
HANDLING AND TRANSIT CARGO SOMEHOW ATTRIBUTABLE

USN VISIT. SITUATION IS SO TIGHT THAT MAJOR EFFORT CURRENTLY UNDER WAY DEVELOP NEW PORT JUST NORTH OF SUAKIN, BUT COMPLETION THIS ADDITIONAL FACILITY OBVIOUSLY YEARS AWAY. IN ADDITION PORT PROBLEMS, FIERCE PORT SUDAN HEAT SEVEN MONTHS OF YEAR AND TOTAL ABSENCE OF NORMAL SOURCES DIVERSION WOULD IMPOSE SPECIAL BURDENS ON USN PERSONNEL. FOR EXAMPLE, DURING PART OF YEAR THERE EVEN SERIOUS LIMITATIONS ON FRESH WATER SUPPLY.

3. VIEW FOREGOING, DO NOT BELIEVE PORT SUDAN SHOULD BE VISITED MORE THAN ONCE ANNUALLY AND THAT VISIT SHOULD OCCUR DURING NOVEMBER/APRIL PERIOD. WOULD BE PREPARED SEEK GOS COMMITMENT ON THAT BASIS BUT SUDANESE APPROVAL WOULD BE FACILITATED IF THEY COULD BE INFORMED PRIVATELY THAT SAUDI ARABIA, MUSCAT AND NUMBER AFRICAN AND SOUTH ASIAN COUNTRIES ALSO BEING APPROACHED. BREWER

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TROOP DEPLOYMENT, NAVAL FORCES, PORT CONGESTION, POLICIES, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, MILITARY BASE AGREEMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 15-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977KHARTO00534  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770075-0680, D770053-0501  
**Format:** TEL  
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**Handling Restrictions:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770241/aaaabkjc.tel  
**Line Count:** 80  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** c342cec6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** 77 STATE 30235  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 09-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3321869  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MIDDLE EAST FORCE - THE NEW FORMAT  
**TAGS:** MORG, MPOL, SU, US, XO, UR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/c342cec6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
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